

*CLAIM AMENDMENTS*

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

1.-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A bellows arrangement according to claim 18, in which the connector element is made of moulded thermoplastics material.

10. (Currently Amended) A bellows arrangement according to claim 18, in which the connector element is of hollow tubular form.

11. (Currently Amended) A bellows arrangement according to claim 10, wherein the bellows comprises an axis and ~~in which~~ the connector element comprises a first hollow tubular portion extending generally radially of the bellows and a second integral hollow tubular portion extending parallel to the axis of the bellows.

12. (Currently Amended) A bellows arrangement ~~comprising according to claim 8~~, in combination, ~~with a first and second bellows arrangements~~ according to claim 18, the interiors of the two bellows arrangements being connected together by means of their connector elements.

13. (Withdrawn) A method of securing a separate element having an opening therein to the wall of an article which is produced by blowing a parison, comprising the steps of separately producing the separate element, placing it in a mould which receives the parison, and blowing the parison in the mould so that material of the parison enters the opening of the separate element and secures the element to the article, the blowing of the material of the parison into the opening of the separate element forming an aperture in the parison at that position whereby to form a communication between the interior of the article and the opening of the separate element.

14. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 13, including the step of producing a formation in the separate element at its opening for receiving the blown material of the parison.

15. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 13, in which the article is a flexible bellows.

16. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 13, in which the material of the parison is thermoplastic material.

17. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 13, in which the separate element is secured to the article by welding and mechanical bonding.

Please add the following claims:

18. (New) A flexible bellows arrangement comprising

a parison of blow-moulded thermoplastic material comprising a wall defining an interior, and an opening in said wall into the interior, and

a connector element with a hollow passage therethrough communicating with said opening to enable a connection to be made to the interior through said wall,

the connector element being secured in position by a portion of the material of the parison which has entered the hollow passage of the connector element to weld and seal the material of the parison to the material of the connector element and to form said opening during the blow-moulding of the parison.

19. (New) A bellows arrangement according to claim 9, in which the connector element is of hollow tubular form.

20. (New) A bellows arrangement according to claim 19, wherein the bellows comprises an axis and the connector element comprises a first hollow tubular portion extending generally radially of the bellows and a second integral hollow tubular portion extending parallel to the axis of the bellows.

21. (New) A bellows arrangement comprising

a first bellows arrangement comprising

a parison of blow-moulded thermoplastic material comprising a wall defining an interior, and an opening in said wall into the interior, and

a connector element with a hollow passage therethrough communicating with said opening to enable a connection to be made to the interior through said wall,

the connector element being secured in position by a portion of the material of the parison which has entered the hollow passage of the connector element to weld and seal the material of the parison to the material of the connector element and to form said opening during the blow-moulding of the parison,

in combination with a second bellows arrangement according to claim 9, the interiors of the two bellows arrangements being connected together by means of their connector elements.

22. (New) A bellows arrangement comprising

a first bellows arrangement comprising

a parison of blow-moulded thermoplastic material comprising a wall defining an interior, and an opening in said wall into the interior, and

a connector element with a hollow passage therethrough communicating with said opening to enable a connection to be made to the interior through said wall,

the connector element being secured in position by a portion of the material of the parison which has entered the hollow passage of the connector element to weld and seal the material of the parison to the material of the connector element and to form said opening during the blow-moulding of the parison,

in combination with a second bellows arrangement according to claim 10, the interiors of the two bellows arrangements being connected together by means of their connector elements.

23. (New) A bellows arrangement comprising

a first bellows arrangement comprising

a parison of blow-moulded thermoplastic material comprising a wall defining an interior, and an opening in said wall into the interior, and

a connector element with a hollow passage therethrough communicating with said opening to enable a connection to be made to the interior through said wall,

the connector element being secured in position by a portion of the material of the parison which has entered the hollow passage of the connector element to weld and seal the material of the parison to the material of the connector element and to form said opening during the blow-moulding of the parison,

in combination with a second bellows arrangement according to claim 11, the interiors of the two bellows arrangements being connected together by means of their connector elements.

24. (New) A bellows arrangement comprising

a first bellows arrangement comprising

a parison of blow-moulded thermoplastic material comprising a wall defining an interior, and an opening in said wall into the interior, and

a connector element with a hollow passage therethrough communicating with said opening to enable a connection to be made to the interior through said wall,

the connector element being secured in position by a portion of the material of the parison which has entered the hollow passage of the connector element to weld and seal the material of the parison to the material of the connector element and to form said opening during the blow-moulding of the parison,

in combination with a second bellows arrangement according to claim 19, the interiors of the two bellows arrangements being connected together by means of their connector elements.

25. (New) A bellows arrangement comprising

a first bellows arrangement comprising

a parison of blow-moulded thermoplastic material comprising a wall defining an interior, and an opening in said wall into the interior, and

a connector element with a hollow passage therethrough communicating with said opening to enable a connection to be made to the interior through said wall,

the connector element being secured in position by a portion of the material of the parison which has entered the hollow passage of the connector element to weld and seal the material of the parison to the material of the connector element and to form said opening during the blow-moulding of the parison,

in combination with a second bellows arrangement according to claim 20, the interiors of the two bellows arrangements being connected together by means of their connector elements.